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(54) Gray scale expression method and gray scale display device

In order to restrict a degradation of image quality due to fake contours of moving images, gray scale is displayed by dividing one field period into sub-fields and combining the sub-fields including a plurality of subfields weighted such that a light intensity of a certain one of the plurality of the sub-fields is smaller than two times a light intensity of a lower sub-field adjacent to the certain sub-field and larger than the light intensity of the lower sub-field. Further, a light intensity information code converter circuit responsive to binary numbers expressing weights of light intensities of the plurality of the sub-fields for outputting a light intensity information expressing weights in a range satisfying a condition that a light intensity of a certain one of the plurality of the sub-fields is smaller than two times a light intensity of a lower sub-field adjacent to the certain sub-field and larger than the light intensity of the lower sub-field.

FIG.1

		GI	ROU	P 1			G	70U	P 2			Œ	JOU	P 3	
SUB-FIELD NO.	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF	ŞF	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF
SUB-FIELD NO.	5	- 6	7	8	9	5		7	8	9	5	6	7	8	9
BIT NO.	B4	85	B8	B 7	88	B4	B5	В6	87	88	B4	85	86	B7	88
LIGHT INTENSITY	16	32	48	64	80	16	32	48	64	50	16	32	48	64	.80
0~15	0	0	0	0	0			•							
16 ~ 31	1	0	0	0	0										
32 ~ 47	٥	1	0	0	0										
48 ~ 63	1	1	0	0	ο.	0	0	1	0	0					
64 ~ 79	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	٥	1	0	Į.				
80~95	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
96 ~ 111	1	1	1	0	٥.	0	1	٥	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
112~127	1	1	0	1.	0	0	0	1	1	0	.0	1	0	0	1
128 ~ 143	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	٥	0	1	0	0	1	0	1
144 ~ 159	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1
160 ~ 175	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1
176 ~ 191	1	1	1	0	1	٥	1	0	1	1					
192 ~ 207	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1					
208 ~ 223	1	0	1	1	1					1					
224 ~ 239	٥	1	1	1	1										
240 ~ 255	1	1	1	1	1										



Description

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a gray scale expression method for use in a display device and, particularly, to a gray scale expression method adequate to suppress pseudo contours of moving images in displaying gray scale on a flat type display device such as plasma display panel and a gray scale display device using the same method.

In general, a plasma display panel (referred to as "PDP", hereinafter) has many merits such as thin structure, free from flicker, large display contrast ratio, possibility of providing a relatively large screen, high response speed and possibility of multi-color emission by utilizing fluorescent material of self emission type, etc., and, recently, its use in such fields as display devices related to computer and color image display is becoming popular.

The PDP can be classified, according to an operation system thereof, to an AC discharge type in which electrodes are coated with dielectric material and are operated in an indirect AC discharging state and a DC discharge type in which electrodes are exposed in a discharge space and operated in a direct discharge state. The AC discharge type PDP is further classified, according to a drive system, to a memory operation type which utilizes a discharge cell memory and a refresh operation type which does not utilize such memory. Incidentally, light intensity of the PDP is substantially proportional to a discharge frequency, that is, a repetition frequency of pulse voltage. Since light intensity of the refresh type PDP is lowered when its display capacity becomes large, the refresh type PDP is mainly used for small display capacity.

Fig. 14 is a cross section of an example of the A.C. discharge memory operation type PDP, showing a construction of a display cell schematically. The display cell a rear insulating substrate 1 and a front insulating substrate 2, both of which are of glass, a transparent scan electrode 3 formed on an inner surface of the front insulating substrate 2, a transparent sustaining electrode 4 also formed on the inner surface of the front insulating substrate 2, trace electrodes 5 and 6 formed on surfaces of the scan electrode 3 and the sustaining electrode 4 in order to reduce electrode resistances, respectively, a data electrode 7 formed on an inner surface of the rear insulating substrate 1 perpendicularly to the scan electrode 3 and the sustaining electrode 4, a discharge gas space 8 provided between the insulating substrates 1 and 2 and filled with a discharge gas such as helium, neon or xenon or a mixture of them, partition walls 9 for maintaining the discharge gas space 8 and partitioning between display cells, a fluorescent material 11 for converting ultra-violet ray generated by a discharge of the discharge gas in the space 8 into a visible light 10, a dielectric member 12 covering the scan electrode 3 and the sustaining electrode 4, a protective layer 13 formed of magnesium oxide, etc., for protecting the dielectric member 12 against discharge and a dielectric member 14 covering the data electrode 7.

A discharge operation of a selected display cell will be described with reference to Fig. 14. When a discharge is started by applying a pulse voltage exceeding a discharge threshold value across the scan electrode 3 and the data electrode 4, positive and negative electric charges are attracted to the respective dielectric members 12 and 14 and accumulated thereon correspondingly to the polarity of this pulse voltage. Since an internal voltage equivalent to the accumulated charge, that is, the wall voltage, has a polarity opposite to the polarity of the pulse voltage, an effective voltage within the cell is lowered with growth of discharge and it becomes impossible to sustain the discharge even when the pulse voltage is kept constant. Thus, the discharge is ultimately stopped. Thereafter, when a sustaining pulse which is a pulse voltage having the same polarity as that of the wall voltage is applied across the scan electrode 3 and the sustaining electrode 4, it is possible to discharge even if the voltage amplitude of the sustaining pulse is small, since the wall voltage is added to the sustaining pulse voltage as an effective voltage, resulting in a drive voltage exceeding the discharge threshold value.

Therefore, it becomes possible to maintain discharge by continuously applying the sustaining pulse across the scan electrode 3 and the sustaining electrode 4. This function is the above mentioned memory function. Further, it is possible to stop the sustaining discharge by applying a low voltage pulse having large width or an erase pulse having a small width similar to the sustaining pulse voltage across the scan electrode 3 and the sustaining electrode 4 such that the wall voltage is neutralized.

Fig. 15 shows conventional drive waveforms such as disclosed in SOCIETY FOR INFORMATION DIS-PLAY INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM DIGEST OF TECHNICAL PAPERS VOLUME XXVI, pp807, for driving a plasma display panel having a structure such as shown in Fig. 16.

The panel shown in Fig. 16 is for a dot matrix display panel including j (column electrodes) × k (line electrodes). That is, the panel includes scan electrodes Sc1, Sc2, ···, Scj and sustaining electrodes Su1, Su2, ···, Suj arranged in parallel to the respective scan electrodes, as the column electrodes and data electrodes D1, D2, ···, Dk arranged perpendicularly to each of the column electrodes, as the line electrodes

In Fig. 15, a sustaining electrode drive waveform Wu applied commonly to the sustaining electrodes Su1, Su2, · · · , Suj, scan electrode drive waveforms Ws1, Ws2, · · · . Wsj applied to the respective scan electrodes Sc1, Sc2, · · · , Scj and a data electrode drive waveform Wd applied to the data electrode Di are shown, where 1 ≤ i ≤ k. A drive period includes a prelim-

inary discharge period A, a write discharge period B and a sustaining discharge period C and a desired image display is obtained by repeating the drive period.

The preliminary discharge period A includes a preliminary discharge pulse Pp for discharging all of the display cells of the PDP panel 15 and preliminary discharge erase pulses Pp_e for extinguishing charges among the wall charges produced by the application of the preliminary discharge pulse, which impedes the write discharge and the sustaining discharge. In the preliminary discharge period A, active particles and the wall charges which are necessary to obtain a stable write discharge characteristics in the write discharge period B are produced in the discharge gas space.

In the sustaining discharge period C, in order to obtain desired light intensity of the display cells which are subjected to the write discharge in the write discharge period B, the discharges of the display cells are sustained.

In the preliminary discharge period A, the preliminary discharge pulse Pp is supplied to the sustaining electrodes Su1, Su2, •••, Suj to discharge all of the display cells. Then, the erase pulses Pp_e are applied to the scan electrodes Sc1, Sc2, •••, Scj to produce erase discharges therein to thereby erase the wall charges accumulated by the preliminary discharge pulse.

Thereafter, in the write period B, the scan pulse Pw is applied to the scan electrodes Sc1, Sc2, •••, Scj in line-sequence and the data pulse Pd is selectively applied to the data electrodes Di correspondingly to video display data, to produce discharges in the display cells to be displayed to thereby produce the wall charges.

Finally, in the sustaining discharge period C, the discharges of only the display cells in which the write discharges occur are sustained by the sustaining pulses Pc and Ps, completing a light emitting operation of the whole PDP panel.

A conventional sub-field display scheme for 64 gray levels, in which the scanning and sustaining drives are performed separately and which is utilized in an AC color plasma display, will be briefly described with reference to Fig. 17(a). One TV field which is usually in the order of one-sixtieth second (about 16.7 ms) at which flicker is negligible is divided into 6 sub-fields SF1 ~ SF6 as shown in Fig. 17(a), each sub-field consisting of a scan period and a sustaining period.

In the scanning period of the sub-field SF1 of the sub-fields SF1 ~ SF6, the write operation is performed for the respective pixels on the basis of display data of B5 which is the most significant bit number. After the write operation for the whole PDP panel completes, the sustaining discharge pulse is applied to the whole panel to emit light from only the written pixels. Then, the same drive is performed in the sub-field SF5, and so on. In order to obtain sufficient amount of light emission in the sustaining discharge periods of the respective sub-

fields, the sustaining pulse is applied, for example, 256 times in the sub-field SF6, 128 times in the sub-field SF5, 64 times in the sub-field SF4, 32 times in the sub-field SF3, 16 times in the sub-field SF2 and 8 times in the sub-field SF1.

The above mentioned operation is basically the same as that shown in Fig. 17(b) which shows another conventional sub-field display scheme of a mixed scanning/sustaining drive type in which the write/erase scanning and the sustaining discharging are performed simultaneously or of a mixed drive type in which the scanning/sustaining are performed across adjacent sub-fields. Such sub-field scheme has to be employed due to the necessity of modulation of intensity of emitted light with the number of light emissions or the light emitting period and, in order to scan a plurality of times in each sub-field necessarily, the sub-field scheme requires a high speed scan and write operations within a short time. However, with the recent improvement of the write performance of the plasma display panel, a high speed write operation has become possible even at 3 microseconds or shorter and a full color display with 256 gray levels has been realized by using an 8 subfield system.

Although such sub-field system is adequate to display still images, it has been found that disturbances of gradation are often observed when displaying moving images, dependent on image. For example, in a case where an image such as a human cheek having a slow spatial variation of gray levels moves on a display screen, pseudo contours which are darker or brighter or different in color from that of the cheek may appear on a portion of the cheek which is to be a smooth image. Further, there may also occur color separation or reduction of resolution. Such pseudo contours or gradation disturbances of moving images are very conspicuous in boarder regions of a smoothly varying gradation where gray levels jump up to higher bits, resulting in substantial degradation of display quality and image quality.

Fig. 18 shows a portion of gradation realized by combinations of 8 sub-fields SF1 ~ SF8 weighted respectively by light intensities 128, 64, 32, 16, 8, 4, 2 and 1 corresponding to respective binary numbers each consisting 8 bits B7, B6, B5, B4, B3, B2, B1 and B0. By combining these sub-fields, it becomes possible to display 256 gray levels. That is, the light intensity of each of the 256 gray levels of each pixel can be realized by a binary number of 8 bits, B7 ~ B0. Images are sequentially displayed by the sub-fields SF1 ~ SF8 whose existence or absence of light intensities 128, 64, 32, 16, 8, 4, 2 and 1 is represented by binary numbers of the bits B7 ~ B0, resulting in a natural image expressed by intermediate gray levels obtained by the integration effect of human eyes.

In Fig. 18, particularly, in a case where light intensity is varied by one gray level from 127 to 128, values of all of B6 to B0 are changed from "1" to "0" and a value of B7 is changed from "0" to "1". Therefore, when a PDP

is activated in time from the lowest sub-field SF1 to the highest sub-field SF8 in the order, the light emitting period is substantially changed from a former half portion of a field to a later half thereof, resulting in the pseudo contours of moving images.

In order to solve this problem, a number of methods have been proposed. In Takigawa, "TV Display by AC Plasma Panel", the journal of Electronics & Communications Association of Japan, 77/Vol. J60-A, No. 1, pp. 56 to 62, it is described that it is effective to arrange sub- 10 fields such that an average of light intensity within a time corresponding to one field becomes small at times preceding and succeeding to a shift-up or shift-down of bit and, in a case of display with 5 bits, that is, in 32 gray levels, a sub-field arrangement of SF3, SF2, SF1, SF5, SF4 with a light emitting period of higher bit being arranged in a center portion is effective to suppress pseudo contours of moving images. Further, it is also effective for the same purpose to reduce a display time within one field and, according to experiments conducted by him, a good display is realized by shortening the display period to one fourth of one field in the above sub-field arrangement.

Further, in A. Kohgami, "Gray Scale Display System of TV using Memory Type Gas Discharge Panel", Technical Report of Electronic Information Communications Association of Japan, EID90-9, 1990, it is described that pseudo contours of moving images can be improved by making a time interval from a first bit of a field to a last bit of a succeeding field within 20 milliseconds corresponding to a critical flicker frequency of human visual organ. Kohgami also describes that such time interval of 20 milliseconds or shorter can be realized by not arranging sub-fields throughout one field but arranging them dense in one side portion of the field similarly to the above mentioned Takigawa method.

Kohgami further describes that the above condition can also be satisfied by dividing and arranging high significant bits having long light emitting period. In a case of a 8-bit display, it is possible to realize the time of 18.8 milliseconds from the first bit of one field to a last bit of a next field by dividing the most significant bit B7 by 2 to obtain sub-fields SF8-1 and SF8-2, dividing a next significant bit B6 by 2 to obtain sub-field SF7-1 and SF7-2 and arranging the sub-fields SF8-1, SF8-2, SF7-1 and SF7-2 thus obtained discretely to constitute one field consisting of 10 sub-fields arranged in the order of SF7-1, SF8-1, SF1, SF2, SF3, SF4, SF5, SF6, SF7-2 and SF8-2, resulting in improved gray scale expression of moving images.

It should be noted that, in the present invention, the expression generally used in the field of the information processing is used such that the least significant bit, not his significant bit and the lowest sub-field are expressed by B0, Bn-1 and SF1, respectively, although, in Kohgami, the most significant bit of a binary number representing the weight of light intensity is made B1 and the most significant sub-field corresponding thereto is made

SF1.

There are other proposals for improvement on the contour disturbances of moving images by means of optimization of the arrangement of sub-fields. In Japanese Patent Application Laid-open No. H3-145691, a sub-field of a bit next to the most significant bit and a sub-field of a bit succeeding to the next bit are arranged on both sides of a sub-field of the most significant bit.

In Japanese Patent Application Laid-open No. H7-7702, a sub-field of the most significant bit is arranged in a center position and sub-fields of a next bit next to the most significant bit and a bit next to the next bit are arranged in opposite ends of a field which is separated in time from the sub-field of the most significant bit so as to disperse these sub-fields as far as possible.

Further, in Japanese Patent Application laid-open No. H7-271325, for 64 gray levels, pseudo contours of moving images, which occur when light intensity weighted with binary number is shifted up, is slightly suppressed by preparing three sub-fields (SF4-1, SF4-2, SF4-3) each of light intensity level of 8 and two sub-fields (SF5-1, SF5-2) each of light intensity level of 16 and, in displaying a light intensity in a range from light intensity level 16 to 23 and a range from light intensity level 48 to 55, producing gradation by switching between a first sub-field arrangement in which SF4-1 is selected and a second sub-field arrangement in which SF4-2 is selected, every scan line or every pixel.

Further, in K. Toda, et al., "A Modified-Binary-Coded Light-Emission Scheme for Suppressing Gray Scale Disturbances of Moving Images", ASIA DISPLAY' 95. October 17, 1995, pp. 947 to 948, a sub-field construction is proposed in which, for 256 gray levels, two sub-fields each weighted with a binary number corresponding to light intensity of 48 are arranged on each side of 6 sub-fields weighted with binary numbers corresponding to light intensity level of 1, 2, 4, 8, 16 and 32, respectively. Although the proposed sub-field arrangement substantially relaxes time variation in shift-up operation of bits, there are problems that it requires a number, as large as 10, of sub-fields for 256 gray levels and there is no suppression effect of pseudo contours of moving images with gray level change from light intensity of 31 to 32. This is because the proposed sub-field arrangement is based on the dispersion of light intensity from the upper sub-fields and an information which can be expressed by 10 bits is not utilized effectively.

Among the conventional techniques mentioned hereinbefore, the method utilizing the optimization of the sequence of sub-fields is not sufficient for a high quality video image display since pseudo contours of moving images is not suppressed enough. Further, in order to obtain a sufficient suppression effect for the pseudo contours of moving images, it is necessary in the method in which the field time or display period is shortened or a number of sub-fields are divided to substantially shorten the scan period. This requirement can be satisfied by a plasma display having a display capac-

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itance which is small enough to allow a sufficiently long scan period. However, a multilevel display of moving images is desired by a display having rather large display capacitance and it is difficult to drive such display with further substantial reduction of scan period.

That is, pseudo contours of moving images occur due to unevenness of shift time in shifting up by one gray level in the gray scale display method for displaying gray scale by combining a plurality of sub-fields light intensities of which are weighted by binary numbers. Conventionally, such unevenness of shift time is dispersed by employing special sub-field arrangement or division of upper sub-fields. However, there is no procedure taken to completely remove the time variation which is the cause of pseudo contours of moving images and, therefore, the effect of conventional method is limited. The time unevenness resides in the sub-field method using weighting light intensity with binary numbers and, unless this is solved, the problems inherent to the conventional methods can not be solved.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

An object of the present invention is to provide a gray scale display method capable of substantially suppressing pseudo contours appearing in moving images and a gray scale display device for performing the same method.

In order to achieve the above object, according to the present invention, a gray scale display method for displaying gray scale by dividing one field period into subfields and combining the sub-fields, is featured by including a plurality of sub-fields having light intensity levels, a difference in light intensity level between two of the plurality of the sub-fields which are adjacent in light intensity level is substantially a constant value.

Further, a gray scale display device according to the present invention for performing the gray scale display method for displaying gray scale by dividing one field period into sub-fields and combining the sub-fields is featured by comprising a light intensity information converter circuit which, in response to a light intensity information of sub-fields having light intensities weighted by binary numbers and the binary numbers consisting of a plurality of bits expressing weights of light intensities of a plurality of sub-fields, outputs a light intensity information expressing weights with which a difference in light intensity between two of the plurality of the sub-fields which are adjacent in light intensity level becomes substantially a constant value.

In the gray scale display method and the gray scale display device according to the present invention, a shift-up of light intensity is made only one bit by making light intensities of a plurality of sub-fields arranged in the light intensity order an arithmetic progression. Therefore, the unevenness of time in shifting up the light intensity, which is the problem inherent to the sub-field arrangements in the conventional gray scale display

method in which the light intensities are weighted by binary numbers, is substantially relaxed and, as a result, pseudo contours of moving images are suppressed substantially.

Further, since, according to the present invention, pseudo contours of moving images can be suppressed by using only one or two sub-fields additionally, it is-possible to reduce power consumption of the gray scale display device.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 is a table for explaining a gray scale display method according to a first embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a timing chart of sub-fields according to the first embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 3 is a table for explaining a gray scale display method according to a second embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 4 is a table for explaining a gray scale display method according to a third embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 5 is a table for explaining a gray scale display method according to a fourth embodiment of the present invention;

Figs. 6 and 7 are a table for explaining a gray scale display method according to a fifth embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 8 is a block diagram showing a gray scale display device according to the present invention;

Figs. 9 and 10 are a table for explaining a gray scale display method according to a sixth embodiment of the present invention;

Figs. 11(a) to 11(d) are tables for explaining subfields based on a seventh embodiment of the present invention;

Figs. 12(a) to 12(d) are tables for explaining subfields based on an eighth embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 13 is a disassembled perspective view showing a structure of a plasma display panel (PDP) used in the embodiments of the present invention;

Fig. 14 is a cross section showing a construction of one of display cells of an AC memory type PDP;

Fig. 15 shows waveforms in various portions of a conventional PDP drive circuit;

Fig. 16 is a plan view showing an electrode arrangement of the AC memory type PDP;

Figs. 17(a) and (b) show a conventional sub-field system for gray scale display; and

Fig. 18 is a table for explaining a conventional gray scale display method.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Preferred embodiments of the present invention will

30

be described in detail with reference to the drawings.

Fig. 13 shows a plasma display panel for 640 × 480 color image display. On a lower surface of a glass substrate 1 on a display side, plane discharge electrodes 62 formed from transparent electrically conductive films each laminated with a metal bus electrode are formed and, on lower surfaces of the surface discharge electrodes 62, a dielectric layer 12 is formed. Further, on a lower surface of the dielectric layer 12, a black colored and lattice shaped partition wall 64 defining pixels is formed.

On an upper surface of a glass substrate 2 on a rear side, data electrodes 7 extending perpendicularly of the plane discharge electrodes, a white colored glaze layer 67 and white colored, parallel partition walls 68 having parallel grooves between adjacent ones thereof are formed in the order. A width of the groove between adjacent ones of the partition walls 68 is substantially equal to a distance between adjacent ones of lattices of the partition wall 64 in one direction. Inside surfaces of the grooves of the partition walls 68 are painted with a fluorescent material 11 which is capable of emitting three primary colors.

The panel is completed by assembling the above mentioned components and filling a space between the glass substrates 1 and 2 with a discharge gas consisting of helium (He), neon (Ne) and xenon (Xe). The number of the data electrodes 7 is 1920 and the number of the surface discharge electrodes 62 is 480 each consisting of a scan electrode and a sustaining electrode.

Scan pulses are applied to the scan electrodes sequentially and data pulses are applied to the data electrodes 7 selected in synchronism with the application of the scan pulses. After this line-sequential scan is performed throughout the panel, a sustaining discharge is performed throughout the panel surface, resulting in a color light emission. A display of a moving image having gray levels is performed by performing this operation in a plurality of sub-fields correspondingly to digitized gray scale data in a field period of 1/60 seconds.

Fig. 1 is a table showing a gray scale display method according to a first embodiment of the present invention. The table shown in Fig. 1 shows combinations of 9 sub-fields SF1 to SF9 obtained by dividing one field, which express respective 256 gray levels. Although, in the example shown in Fig. 1, only upper sub-fields SF5 to SF9 are shown, it should be noted that light intensities of lower sub-fields SF1 to SF4 are weighted with usual binary numbers as in the case shown in Fig. 18. That is, the sub-fields SF1, SF2, SF3 and SF4 are weighted to light intensities 1, 2, 4 and 8 correspondingly to bit numbers B0, B1, B2 and B3, respectively. Light intensities in a range from 0 to 15 are expressed by combining these four sub-fields SF1, SF2, SF3 and SF4.

In this embodiment, light intensity weights of 16, 32, 48, 64 and 80 corresponding to the bits B4, B5, B6, B7 and B8 are assigned to the upper five sub-fields SF5,

SF6, SF7, SF8 and SF9, respectively. That is, these sub-fields are weighted in an arithmetic progression having constant, that is, a difference in light intensity between adjacent sub-fields, of substantially 16.

In concrete, light intensity of the fifth sub-field SF5 is 16, that of the sixth sub-field SF6 is 32 obtained by adding the constant of 16 to the light intensity of the sub-field SF5, that of the seventh sub-field SF7 is 48 obtained by adding the constant of 16 to the light intensity of 32 of the sub-field SF6, that of the eighth sub-field SF8 is 64 obtained by adding the constant of 16 to the light intensity of 48 of the sub-field SF7 and that of the ninth sub-field SF9 is 80 obtained by adding the constant of 16 to the light intensity of 64 of the sub-field SF8. Further, the gray scale corresponding to the constant of 16 is expressed by the lower sub-fields SF1 to SF4, so that a continuous gray scale is expressed without any discontinuity, together with the upper sub-fields.

Therefore, the change of light emitting period when the light intensity is changed by one gray level from level 63 to level 64, from level 127 to level 128 and from level 191 to level 192 which is a problem when the light intensity is conventionally weighted with binary numbers corresponds, in this embodiment, to a mere shift of the light emission in a certain sub-field to another sub-field adjacent thereto. That is, in this embodiment, the change of light intensity from 63 to 64 corresponds to the mere shift of light emission in the sub-field SF6 to the adjacent sub-field SF7.

Further, the change of light intensity from 127 to 128 with which the maximum pseudo contours of moving images occurs can be realized by merely shifting light emission in the sub-field SF6 to the sub-field SF7. Further, the change of light intensity from 191 to 192 can be realized by the mere shift of light emission in the sub-field SF7 to the sub-field SF8. Although the changes of light intensity in the lower four sub-fields are the same as those in the conventional technique, these changes can be negligible since the light emitting periods of the lower four sub-fields are very short.

As described, when the weighting of the respective upper sub-fields is determined such that the light intensities thereof becomes an arithmetic progression, the change in the case of shift-up of the upper sub-field is only one level and it is possible to determine a hamming distance at the one level change as 1. Further, redundancy of information is increased and one light intensity can be expressed by one of a plurality of combinations of the bits B4 to B8. Fig. 1 shows a first group of expressions, a second group of expressions and a third group of expressions. Although the light intensities from 0 to 47 and the light intensities from 208 to 255 can be expressed by only the first group of expressions, the light intensities from 48 to 79 and those from 176 to 207 can be expressed by either of the first group of expressions or the second group of expressions and the light intensities from 80 to 175 can be expressed by any of the first, second and third groups of expressions. The

first group of expressions of the light intensities from 48 to 207, which can also be expressed by the second and/or third groups of expressions, are selected such that the upper change is smaller than those of the expression "01000" of the light intensities from 32 to 47 as well as the expression "10111" of the light intensities from 208 to 223. Therefore, it is clear from Fig. 1 that the change of sub-field at the level change can be made smaller and the contour degradation of moving images can be restricted. Incidentally, it is possible to select expressions from the second and third groups whose changes of light intensities at the level changes are not so different from those of the first group of expressions.

Further, it is possible to arrange the lower sub-fields SF1, SF2, SF3 and SF4 having light intensities weighted by binary numbers in not only the increasing order but also the decreasing order, or to disperse them on both sides of the upper sub-fields from SF5 to SF9 or concentrate them in the center.

Further, it is possible to divide each of some upper sub-fields by two and arrange these sub-fields symmetrically in time. For example, it is possible to further reduce the gravity center shift at the level change to thereby substantially suppress pseudo contours of moving images by dividing the SF8 having light intensity weighted by 64 and the sub-field SF7 having light intensity weighted by 48 into sub-fields SF8-1 and SF8-2 whose light intensities are weighted by 32 and sub-fields SF7-1 and SF7-2 whose light intensities are weighted by 24, respectively, and arranging these sub-fields in the order of SF7-1, SF8-1, SF9, SF8-2, SF7-2.

Further, it is possible to suppress pseudo contours of moving images more effectively by suitably selecting the expressions of the first, second and third groups by means of pixels, scan lines, fields, frames, etc.

The weighting of light intensities by the arithmetic progression has been described. However, even if the weighting is not performed with the exact constant of the arithmetic progression, substantially the same effect can be obtained when a light intensity of a sub-field is within a range from a value smaller than two times a light intensity of a lower sub-field adjacent to the sub-field to a value exceeding the light intensity of the lower sub-field.

Fig. 2 is a time chart of the sub-fields shown in Fig. 1. Each sub-field consists of a scan period for which data for determining whether or not the sub-field is to emit light with a weight of its light intensity is written in respective pixels and a sustaining period for emitting light from the panel on the basis of the written data. A time of one field composed of the sub-fields SF1 to SF9 is usually 1/60 seconds, that is, 16.7 milliseconds.

In this example, the sub-fields are arranged first from the lowest sub-field SF1 to the highest sub-field SF9 along a time axis. However, the same effect can be obtained by arranging them in a reverse direction. Further, in the lower four sub-fields SF1 to SF4, the order of the sub-fields SF3 and SF4, SF2 and SF4 or SF2 and

SF3 can be reversed. With such reversed arrangement of the specific sub-fields, the time unevenness at the shift-up time of the lower sub-fields is more relaxed and the suppression effect of pseudo contours of moving images becomes large.

Fig. 3 is a table showing combinations of sub-fields according to a second embodiment of the gray scale display method according to the present invention. In this embodiment, the light intensities of the lower four sub-fields SF1 to SF4 are weighted with usual binary numbers as in the case shown in Fig. 1. That is, the light intensity of the lowest, first sub-field SF1 is 1, that of the second sub-field SF2 is 2 which is twice the light intensity of the first sub-field SF1, that of the third sub-field SF3 is 4 which is twice the light intensity of the second sub-field SF2 and that of the fourth sub-field SF4 is 8 which is twice the light intensity of the third sub-field SF3, although the lower sub-fields SF1 to SF4 having light intensities weighted with the binary numbers are omitted from Fig. 3. A difference of Fig. 3 from Fig. 1 is that all of the sub-fields in Fig. 1 except the most significant sub-field SF9 are used to express 176 gray levels from light intensity 0 to light intensity 175. Since the light intensities of the upper sub-fields SF5 to SF8 are weighted such that they are in arithmetic progression having a constant 16 as in the case shown in Fig. 1, a shift-up of one level of a sub-field is a shift to a sub-field adjacent thereto. As a result, the time unevenness at the shift-up time of the lower sub-fields is relaxed and pseudo contours of moving images is substantially sup-

Fig. 4 is a table showing combinations of sub-fields based on a third embodiment of the gray scale display method according to the present invention. In this embodiment, in order to relax the unevenness of time at the shift-up of a lower sub-field, the sub-fields SF1, SF2, SF3, SF4 and SF5 are assigned to light intensities 1, 2, 3, 7 and 8, respectively. Therefore, as shown in Fig. 4, the change of light intensity level by one level from the light intensity 15 to the light intensity 16 is realized by merely shifting light emission of the sub-fields SF4 and SF5 to the sub-field SF6 (corresponds to the sub-field SF5 in Figs. 1 and 3) weighted to light intensity of 16.

Fig. 5 is a table showing combinations of sub-fields based on a fourth embodiment of the gray scale display method according to the present invention. In this embodiment, in order to relax the unevenness of time at the shift-up of a lower sub-field, the sub-fields SF1, SF2, SF3, SF4 and SF5 are assigned to light intensities 1, 2, 3, 7 and 8, respectively. Therefore, as shown in Fig. 5, the change of light intensity level by one level from the light intensity 7 to the light intensity 8 is realized by merely shifting light emission of the sub-field SF4 to the sub-field SF5. Further, the change of light intensity by one level from the light intensity 15 to light intensity 16 is realized by merely shifting the light emission of the sub-field SF1, SF4 and SF5 to the sub-field SF6 (corresponds to the sub-field SF5 in Figs. 1 and 3) weighted

to light intensity of 16. In this manner, it is possible to suppress the contour degradation of moving images by weighting the lower sub-field.

Figs. 6 and 7 show a table of combinations of subfields for expressing 222 gray levels, according to a fifth embodiment of the present invention. In this embodiment, the weighting is performed such that the least significant bit B0 is 1, a first bit B1 is 2 and an i-th bit Bi is (Bi - 1) + (Bi - 2) + 1). That is, as shown in Fig. 6, the bits B2, B3, B4, B5, B6, B7 and B8 are weighted by 4, 7, 12, 20, 33, 54 and 88, respectively. With such weighting, a shift-up occurs in the i-th bit Bi when both (i - 2)-th bit Bi-2 and (i-1)-th bit Bi-1 are shifted up from 1 by one level. That is, after the lower 2 bits become 1, the shift-up occurs. In the conventional weighting with binary numbers shown in Fig. 18, when all of (i-1)-th bit to the least significant bit are shifted up from 1 by one gray level, ith bit becomes 1 and all of (i-1)-th bit to the least significant bit are substantially changed from 1 to 0. In this embodiment, however, only the lower 2 bits at most are changed from 0 to 1 at the shift-up time. Further, comparing with the gay scale expression method shown in Figs. 1, 3, 4 and 5, the change at the shift-up of the lower 4 bits is also restricted. Therefore, the variations of light emitting period when the change of light intensity at the shift-up time of the respective sub-fields can be substantially reduced and pseudo contours of moving images is substantially suppressed.

Figs. 9 and 10 show a table of combinations of subfields for expressing 71 gray levels, according to a sixth embodiment of the present invention. In this embodiment, the weighting of sub-fields is performed such that the least significant bit B0 is 1, a first bit B1 is 2 and an i-th bit Bi is (Bi - 1) + (Bi - 2) - (Bi - 3) + 1). That is, as shown in Figs. 9 and 10, the bits B2, B3, B4, B5, B6 and B7 are weighted by 4, 6, 9, 12, 16 and 20, respectively. With such weighting, a shift-up occurs in the i-th bit Bi when both (i - 2)-th bit Bi-2 and (i-1)-th bit Bi-1 are shifted up from 1 by one level. Further, upon the shiftup, the i-th bit Bi is changed from 0 to 1 and, simultaneously, the (i-3)-th bit Bi-3 is also changed from 0 to 1. That is, the shift-up occurs after the lower 2 bits are 1 and the (Bi-3, Bi-2, Bi-1, Bi) expressed by (0, 1, 1, 0) are expressed by (1, 0, 0, 1). In the conventional weighting with binary numbers shown in Fig. 18, the i-th bit becomes 1 when all of (i-1)-th bit to the least significant bit are shifted up from light intensity 1 by one gray level and all of (i-1)-th bit to the least significant bit are substantially changed from 1 to 0. In this embodiment, however, only the lower 2 bits at most are changed from 0 to 1 at the shift-up time. Further, since not only the i-th bit but also the (i-3)-th bit are changed to 1 simultaneously, it is possible to disperse the time variation of light intensity. Further, comparing with the gay scale expression method shown in Figs. 1, 3, 4 and 5, the change at the shift-up of the lower 4 bits is also restricted. Therefore, since the variations of light emitting period at the change of light intensity at the shift up time of the

respective sub-fields can be substantially reduced and dispersed with using this weighting as shown in Figs. 9 and 10, pseudo contours of moving images is substantially suppressed.

The weighting shown in Figs. 9 and 10 has redundancy of information. Therefore, it is possible to express one and the same gray level by any of different codes shown in a second or third column shown in Figs. 9 and 10. For example, the gray level 15 can be expressed by any of three codes (01101000) in the first column, (11000100) in the second column and (00011000) in the third column. it is possible to select any one of these different expressions every pixel, every line or every frame. For example, it is possible to cause odd numbered lines to light by using the codes in the first column and cause even numbered lines to light by using the codes in the second column, or to change the codes every frame. Upon such scheme, the time unevenness at the shift-up time of the lower sub-fields is relaxed and pseudo contours of moving images is substantially suppressed.

Figs. 11(a), 11(b), 11(c) and 11(d) show sub-field arrangements based on a seventh embodiment of the present invention. These sub-fields are featured by that upper sub-fields expressing high light intensity are divided and the divided sub-fields are arranged on both sides of a sub-field expressing the highest gray level or a sub-field expressing a high gray level next to the highest gray level.

In the arrangement shown in Fig. 11(a), a sub-field having light intensity 48 corresponding to the sixth bit (B6) of the sub-field arrangement shown in Fig. 3 is divided into two sub-fields. Similarly, a sub-field having light intensity 32 corresponding to B5 is divided into two sub-fields having light intensity 16, a sub-field having light intensity 16 corresponding to B4 is divided into two sub-fields having light intensity 8 and a sub-field having light intensity 8 corresponding to B3 is divided into two sub-fields having light intensity 4. The sub-fields (SF3, SF11), (SF4, SF10), (SF5, SF9) and (SF6, SF8) obtained by dividing the sub-fields B6, B5, B4 and B3 are arranged on both sides of the sub-field SF7 having light intensity of 64 corresponding to the highest bit B7. By arranging the divided sub-fields symmetrically on a time axis, the contour degradation of moving images caused by lighting and extinguishing the divided subfields is cancelled out, so that pseudo contours of moving image is suppressed.

The arrangement shown in Fig. 11(b) differs from that shown in Fig. 11(a) in which the upper sub-fields are divided into to two sub-fields, respectively, and the divided sub-fields are arranged on both sides, in that a sub-field of the bit 6 (B6) next to the most significant bit B7 is not divided and arranged in a center as the sub-field SF7 having light intensity of 48 and the sub-fields SF6 and SF8 having light intensity of 32 and obtained by dividing the sub-field of the most significant bit B7 are arranged on both sides of the undivided sub-field SF7.

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According to the arrangement of sub-field shown in Fig. 11(b), pseudo contours of moving images caused by the divided sub-fields is cancelled out, so that the image quality is improved, similarly to the case shown in Fig. 11(a).

Figs. 11(c) and 11(d) show sub-field arrangements in each of which divided sub-fields are arranged around non-divided sub-field, similarly to those shown in Figs. 11(a) and 11(b) except that the sub-field SF9 of the bit 8 is removed.

Figs. 12(a), 12(b), 12(c) and 12(d) show sub-field arrangements based on an eighth embodiment of the present invention, in which the weight of the bit number B3 arranged in the 12-th sub-field (SF12) based on the seventh embodiment shown in Figs. 11(a) to 11(d) is arranged adjacent to the bit number B2 arranged in the second sub-field SF2. With such arrangements, the variations of light emitting period when the change of light intensity at the shift up from the bit B1 to B2 is reduced compared with Fig. 12, so that the generation of the contour degradation of moving images on a dark screen can be suppressed.

Fig. 8 is a block diagram of an embodiment of a gray scale display device of the plasma display panel (PDP) shown in Fig. 13, according to the present invention. The data electrodes 7 of the PDP (Fig. 13) are connected to a data driver 71, respectively. The data driver 71 supplies data pulses to the data electrodes 7 during the write scan period.

The scan electrodes 3 of the PDP (Fig. 13) are connected to a scan driver 72, respectively. The scan driver 72 supplies scan pulses to the scan electrodes to accumulate, together with the data pulses supplied to the data electrodes 7, the wall charge necessary for subsequent light emission.

On the other hand, the sustaining electrode 4 of the PDP, which is connected commonly to all of the display lines of the PDP, is connected to a sustaining driver 73 such that the sustaining driver 73 supplies a sustaining pulse to the whole surface of the PDP.

The data driver 71, the scan driver 72 and the sustaining driver 73 are controlled by a driver control circuit 74. The driver control circuit 74 includes a data driver control circuit 75, a scan driver control circuit 76 and a sustaining driver control circuit 77. The data driver 71 is connected to the data driver control circuit 75. The data driver control circuit 75 takes display data signals (R7 \sim 0, G7 \sim 0 and B7 \sim 0) input externally through a memory control circuit 78, etc., in a frame memory 79 and supplies data to be selected from the frame memory to the data electrodes 7.

The scan driver 72 is connected to the scan driver control circuit 76 and, responsive to a vertical sync signal which is a signal for controlling a start of one field or one frame, drives the scan electrodes 3 sequentially and selectively. The drive timing is determined by a timing pulse generated by a timing control circuit 83 which operates in synchronism with the vertical sync signal.

The RGB display data supplied externally is supplied to an inverse gamma correction circuit 81 in which it is corrected such that it matches with the light intensity characteristics of the plasma display panel. In a case of 256 gray levels, the inverse gamma correction circuit 81 is realized by using a Read-Only-Memory of 256 words each being 8 bits. The display data consisting of RGB each of 8 bits converted by the inverse gamma correction circuit 81 is supplied to a light intensity information converter circuit 82. The light intensity information converter circuit 82 responds to the RGB data expressing 256 gray levels each being 8 bits to convert it into a display data at least upper bits of which are weighted in arithmetic progression, for example, the bits shown in Figs. 1, 3 and 4 and supplies the display data through the memory control circuit 78 to the frame memory 79.

The output of the light intensity information converter circuit 82 can be realized easily by using the Read-Only-Memory (ROM). For example, in the method shown in Fig. 1, the light intensity information converter circuit 82 can be realized by using a ROM of 256 words each being 9 bits or more and, in the example shown in Fig. 3, the converter circuit can be realized by a ROM of 256 words each being 8 bits. Even in a case where lower significant bits are weighted according to the method shown in Fig. 4, it can be realized by a ROM of 256 words each being 9 bits or 10 bits.

Incidentally, when the light intensity information is converted in parallel with respect to the RGB signal corresponding to red, green and blue, the number of ROM's required becomes three times.

Although, in the example shown in Fig. 8, the light intensity information converter circuit 82 is provided after the inverse gamma correction circuit 81, it may be provided after the frame memory 79. In the latter case, there is no need of increasing the number of bits of the frame memory 79.

Further, it is possible to realize both the inverse gamma correction circuit 81 and the light intensity information converter circuit 82 by using a single ROM. In such case, an inverse gamma correction as well as a light intensity information having upper bits weighted in arithmetic progression as shown in Fig. 1 are derived from the single ROM. Thus, it is possible to reduce the number of ROM's to a half.

Although, in the embodiments, the case where the plane discharge type AC plasma display is driven by providing the scanning period separately from the sustaining period, the present invention is effectively utilized similarly in a flat type display device such as AC type plasma display panel of other driving system or having other structures of such as orthogonal 3 electrode type and a DC type plasma display panel, provided that they perform gray scale display according to the sub-field method.

The light intensity of each sub-field is generally determined by the number of the sustaining discharge pulses. However, a relation between light intensity and

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sustaining discharge pulse number is not linear and there is a tendency that the higher the light intensity due to phenomenon such as light intensity saturation requires the larger the number of sustaining pulses. Further, since the relation between light intensity and sustaining pulse number is different every fluorescent material, the numbers of sustaining pulses corresponding to the same light intensity for red, green and blue are not the same.

When the present invention is applied to the noninterlace system, it is enough to replace the sub-field by sub-frame. Further, although the weighting in arithmetic progression has been described, substantially the same effect can be obtained when a light intensity of a subfield is within a range from a value smaller than two times a light intensity of a lower sub-field adjacent to the sub-field to a value exceeding the light intensity of the lower sub-field. Therefore, the arithmetic progression does not limit the scope of the present invention.

As described hereinbefore, according to the present invention, the change of light intensity by shift-up of 1 gray level in displaying gray scale by combinations of sub-fields merely causes a shift of light emitting period to an adjacent sub-field. Therefore, the time unevenness can be substantially reduced and the contour degradation of moving images which occurs in displaying a moving image having gray scale changing smoothly and is the problem of the conventional techniques can be substantially suppressed, resulting in a high image quality gray scale display method and a gray scale display device.

Further, comparing with the conventional gray scale display method using sub-fields whose highest light intensity is weighted with binary number, the sub-fields according to the present method can be made smaller, so that jumping of gray level due to light intensity saturation is reduced and a display of smooth image can be done.

Claims

- A gray scale display method for displaying gray levels by combining sub-fields obtained by dividing one field period, characterized by that the sub-fields include a plurality of sub-fields satisfying a condition that a light intensity of a certain one of the plurality of said sub-fields is smaller than two times a light intensity of a lower sub-field of the plurality of said sub-fields adjacent to said certain sub-field and larger than the light intensity of said lower sub-field.
- A gray scale display method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said sub-fields include a plurality of subfields satisfying a condition that a difference in light intensity between adjacent two of the plurality of said sub-fields in light intensity is substantially a constant.

- 3. A gray scale display method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said sub-fields include a plurality of sub-fields satisfying a condition that a light intensity of an i-th sub-field in light intensity of the plurality of said sub-fields is substantially equal to a sum of light intensities of (i-1)-th sub-field and (i-2)-th sub-field in light intensity of the plurality of said sub-fields.
- 4. A gray scale display method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said sub-fields include a plurality of sub-fields satisfying a condition that a sum of a light intensity of a (i-1)-th sub-field in light intensity of the plurality of said sub-fields and (i-2)-th sub-field in light intensity of the plurality of said sub-fields is next smaller than a sum of light intensities of (i)-th sub-field and (i-3)-th sub-field in light intensity of the plurality of said sub-fields.
- 5. A gray scale display method as claimed in claim 2, wherein said drive voltage is applied to display electrodes of an electric display device.
 - A gray scale display method as claimed in claim 5, wherein said electric display device is a flat type display device.
 - A gray scale display method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the light intensities of the plurality of said sub-fields are arithmetic progression.
 - A gray scale display method as claimed in claim 1, wherein divided upper sub-fields are arranged on both sides of a non-divided upper sub-field.
 - 9. A gray scale display device for displaying gray levels by combining sub-fields obtained by dividing one field period, characterized by comprising a light intensity information converter circuit responsive to a light intensity information of said sub-fields weighted with binary numbers for outputting an light intensity information setting a light intensity of one of said sub-fields in a range smaller than two times a light intensity of a lower sub-field adjacent in light intensity to said certain sub-field and larger than the light intensity of said lower sub-field.
 - 10. A gray scale display device as claimed in claim 9, wherein said light intensity information converter circuit has a function of a gamma correction circuit.

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		GF	ROU	P 1			GF	ROU	P 2			GF	ROU	P 3	
0.10 515 0.10	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF
SUB-FIELD NO.	5	6	7	8	9	5	6	7	8	9	5	6	7	8	9
BIT NO.	В4	B5	B6	B7	B8	B4	B5	B6	B7	B8	B4	B5	B6	<u>B7</u>	B8
LIGHT INTENSITY	16	32	48	64	80	16	32	48	64	80	16	32	48	64	80
0 ~ 15	0	0	0	0.	0										
16 ~ 31	1	0	0	0	0	ŧ					l				
32 ~ 47	0	1	0	0	0					_	ł				
48 ~ 63	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	l				
64 ~ 79	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0		_	•	_	
80 ~ 95	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0.	0	1
96 ~ 111	1	1	1	0	0 ·	0	1	0	1	Õ	1	. 0	0	0	1
112 ~ 127	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
128 ~ 143	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1
144 ~ 159	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1
160 ~ 175	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	יין	0	0	1	,
176 ~ 191	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1				
192 ~ 207	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1					
208 ~ 223	1	0	1	1	1						1				
224 ~ 239	0	1	1	1	1										
240 ~ 255	1	1	1	1	1										

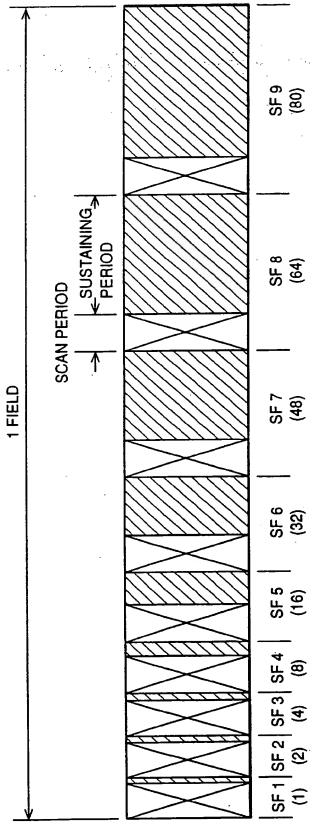


FIG.3

	(GRC	UP	1	(GRO	UP:	2
OUR FIFE DATO	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF
SUB-FIELD NO.	5	6	7	8	5	6	7	8
BIT NO.	B4	B5	B6	B7	B4	B5	B6	B7
LIGHT INTENSITY	16	32	48	64	16	32	48	64
0 ~ 15	0	0	0	0	1			
16 ~ 31	1	0	0	0				
32 ~ 47	0	1	0	0				
48 ~ 63	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
64 ~ 79	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
80 ~ 95	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1
96 ~ 111	1	1	1	0	0	. 1	0	1
112 ~ 127	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1
128 ~ 143	1	0	1	1				
144 ~ 159	0	1	1	1				
160 ~ 175	1	1	1	1			•	

FIG.4

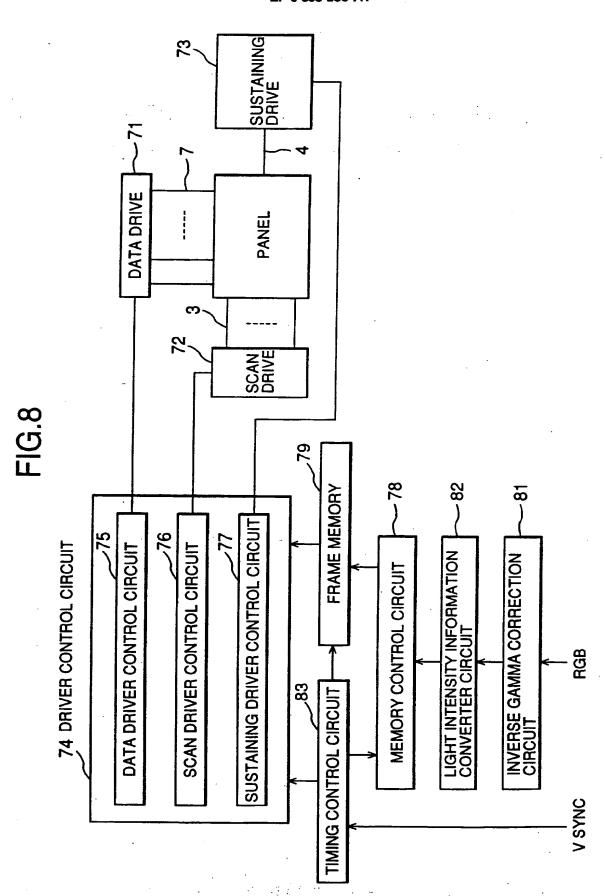
		GF	NOF	P 1			GF	ROU	P 2	
	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF
SUB-FIELD NO.	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
BIT NO.	B0	B1	B2	В3	B4	B0	B1	B2	ВЗ	B4
LIGHT INTENSITY	1	2	3	7	8	1	2	3	7_	8
0	0	0	0	0	0					
1	1	. 0	0	0	0					
2	0	1	0	0	0	Ì				
3	1	1	0	0	0					
4	1	0	1	0	0					
5	0	1	1	0	0					
6	1	1	1	0	0					
7	0	0	0	1	0					_
8	0	0	0	0	1	1	-0	0	1	0
9	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
10	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	0
11	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0
12	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0
13	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0
14	1	1	1	0	1	İ				
15	0	0	0	1	1					

		GF	าดบ	P 1			Gf	ROU	P 2	
0/10 5151 0 10	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF
SUB-FIELD NO.	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
BIT NO.	B0	B1	B2	ВЗ	B4	BO	B1	B2	B3	B4
LIGHT INTENSITY	1	2	3	6	8	1	2	3	6_	8
0	0	0	0	0	0			•		
1	1	0	0	0	0					
2	0	1	0	0	0					
3	1	1	0	0	0					
4	0	0	1	0	0					
5	1	0	1	0	0					_
6	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
7	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0
. 8	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1 -	0
9	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	0
10	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0
11	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0
12	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0
13	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0
14	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1
1 5	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1

FIG.6

INO	SF SF SF SF
NO. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 NO. 1 2 3 4 5 BIT NO. BO B1 B2 B3 B4 B5 B6 B7 B8 BIT NO. BO B1 B2 B3 B4	
LIGHT	
INTENSITY	20 33 54 88
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 111 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 0	1 0 0 1 1 0 0 1
2 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 113 11 0 1 0 0	1 0 0 1
3 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 114 0 1 1 0 0	1 0 0 1
4 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 115 0 0 0 1 0 5 0 1 1 0 0 0 0	1 0 0 1 1 0 0 1
6 100100000 117 01010	1 0 0 1
7 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 118 1 1 0 1 0 8 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 119 0 0 1 1 0	1 0 0 1 1 0 0 1
9 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 120 0 0 0 0 1	1 0 0 1
$oxed{10} egin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 121 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 11 & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & $	0 1 0 1 0 1
11	0 1 0 1 0 1
13 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 124 1 1 0 0 0	0 1 0 1
14	0 1 0 1 0 1
16 1 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 127 0 1 1 0 0	0 1 0 1
17	0 1 0 1 0 1
18 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 129 1 0 0 1 0 19 1 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 130 0 1 0 1 0	0 1 0 1
20 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 131 1 1 0 1 0	0 1 0 1
21 1 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 132 0 0 1 1 0 0 22 0 1 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 133 0 0 0 0 1	0 1 0 1
23 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 134 1 0 0 0 1	0 1 0 1
24 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 135 0 1 0 0 1 25 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 136 1 1 0 0 1	0 1 0 1
26 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 137 0 0 1 0 1	0 1 0 1
27 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 1 0 138 1 0 1 0 1	0 1 0 1
28 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 1 0 139 0 1 1 0 1 29 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 140 0 0 0 1 1	0 1 0 1 0 1
30 000000110 141 00000	1 1 0 1
31 0 0 1 1 0 1 0 0 0 142 0 0 0 0 0 0 32 0 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 143 1 0 0 0 0	0 0 1 1 0 0 1 1
33 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 144 0 1 0 0 0	0 0 1 1
34 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 145 1 1 0 0 0	0 0 1 1
35	0 0 1 1
37 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 148 0 1 1 0 0	0 0 1 1
38	0 0 1 1
39	0 0 1 1 0 0 1 1 0 0 1 1
39 0 1 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 150 1 0 0 1 0 40 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 151 0 1 0 1 0 41 1 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 152 1 1 0 1 0 42 0 1 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 153 0 0 1 1 0 43 1 1 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 154 0 0 0 0 1	0 0 1 1 0 0 1 1 0 0 1 1 0 0 1 1
41	0 0 1 1 0 0 1 1
44 0.0 1 1 0 0 1 0.0 155 1 0 0 0 1	0 0 1 1 0 0 1 1
44 0 0 1 1 0 0 1 0 0 155 1 0 0 0 1 45 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 156 0 1 0 0 1 46 1 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 157 1 1 0 0 1 47 0 1 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 158 0 0 1 0 1	0 0 1 1 0 0 1 1
46	0 0 1 1 0 0 1 1
48 1 1 0 1 0 0 158 0 0 1	0 0 1 1
48	0 0 1 1
50 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 161 0 0 0 1 1 51 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 162 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 1 1 1 0 1 1
52 0 0 0 1 1 0 1 0 0 163 1 0 0 0 0	1 0 1 1

555555566666666777777777778888888889999999999
0010101001010101000101010010101010101010
00011001000110001000110010001100000110011000110001
000001110000011100000111000001000001110000
000000011111100000001000000111110000000
000000000000111111100000000000000000000
1000000000000000000001111111111111000000
100000000000000000000000000000000000000
0111111111111111111111111111111111100000
000000000000000000000000000000000000000
1666789012345678901234567890123456789012322222222222222222222222222222222222
0101001010010100101001010101010101010101
110010011000011001001100011001000110011000110001100110011
0011100001000001110000011110000011100000
0000011111000001110000110000111000001110000
000000000100000000000111111110000000000
111111111111111111111111111111111111111
000000000011111111111111111111111111111
111111111111111111111111111111111111111
111111111111111111111111111111111111111



INTENSITY 01234567890112345678901123456789011234567890123222222223333567890123456789	BIT NO. LIGHT	SUB-FIELD
010101010101011010001001011011001001001	B0	SF 1
0011001011001001001011011100100100100110110110		SF 2
000011100001001110110001000100111011000100010001	B2 4	SF 3
00000001111000000100111100111000001001111	B3 6	SF 4
000000000011111100000001000111111000110000		SF 5
000000000000000001111111000000000111001111	B5 12	SF 6
00000000000000000000000011111111111110000		SF 7
000000000000000000000000000000000000000	87 20	SF 8
01 011010101010111010101011010101010101	B0	SF 1
01 0000011011001101001110011100111001011001	B1 2	SF 2
01 00100001001111001111011110111101111	B2 4	SF.
10 001000001111111000001111111111111111	B3 6	SF 4
00 110000001111110111111111111111111111		SF 5
00 000111110000000011111111111111111111		SF 6
00 000000000000000000000000000000000000	B6 16	SF 7
		SF 8
01 001010101010101010101010101101	B0 1	SF 1
11 000110011001011001001100100000	B1 2	SF 2
11 0000000001111000011100001110000100	B2 4	SF 3
11 10000000000111100000000000001000100	B3 6	SF 4
00 10000000000000001111100000000111000	B4 9	SF 5
00 000000000000000000000000000000000000	B5 12	SF 6
00 011110000000000000011111111111111111		SF 7
00 000001111111111111111111111111111111		SF 8

EP 0 833 299 A1

	-		-		-			•				
SUB-FIELD NO.	SF1	SF2	SF3	SF4	SF5	SF6	SF7	SF8	SF9	SF10	SF11	SF12
BIT NO.	8	<u> </u>	B3-1	B4-1	B5-1	B6-1	87	B6-2	B5-2	B4-2	B3-2	B2
LIGHT INTENSITY (WEIGHT)	-	2	4	æ	16	24	64	24	16	8	4	4
SUB-FIELD NO.	SF1	SF2	SF3	SF4	SF5	SF6	SF7	SF8	SF9	SF10	SF11	SF12
BIT NO.	8	<u>~</u>	B3-1	B4-1	B5-1	B 7-1	B6	B7-2	B5-2	B4-2	B3-2	B 2
LIGHT INTENSITY (WEIGHT)	-	2	4	8	16	32	48	32	16	8	4	4
											٠.	
SUB-FIELD NO.	SF1	SF2	SF3	SF4	SF5	SF6	SF7	SF8	SF9	SF10	SF11	SF12
BIT NO.	B0	19		B4-1	B5-1	B6-1	B7	B6-2	B5-2	B4-2		B2
LIGHT INTENSITY (WEIGHT)	-	2	က	9	10	17	54	16	10	9	4	4
·												
SUB-FIELD NO.	SF1	SF2	SF3	SF4	SF5	SF6	SF7	SF8	SF9		SF11	SF12
BIT NO.	80	<u>8</u>	B3-1	B4-1	B5-1	B6-1	B6	B7-2	B5-2			B2
LIGHT INTENSITY (WEIGHT)	-	2	က	9	10	27	33	27	10	9	4	4
	SUB-FIELD NO. BIT NO. LIGHT INTENSITY (WEIGHT) SUB-FIELD NO. BIT NO. LIGHT INTENSITY (WEIGHT) SUB-FIELD NO. BIT NO. BIT NO. BIT NO. BIT NO. BIT NO. CIGHT INTENSITY (WEIGHT)		O. SF1 SF2 IO. SF1 SF2 ISITY 1 2	O. SF1 SF2 SF3 ISITY 1 2 3	O. SF1 SF2 SF3 SF4 B0 B1 B3-1 B4-1 SITY 1 2 3 6 SITY 1 2 3 6 SITY 1 2 3 6 O. SF1 SF2 SF3 SF4 SITY 1 2 3 6	O. SF1 SF2 SF3 SF4 BITY 1 2 4 8 BITY 1 2 3 6 BITY 1 5 6 BITY	O. SF1 SF2 SF3 SF4 SF5 SITY 1 2 4 8 16 10 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 SITY 1 5 3 6 10 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 SITY 1 5 3 6 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5	O. SF1 SF2 SF3 SF4 SF5 SF6 S SITY 1 2 4 8 16 32 SITY 1 2 8F3 SF4 SF5 SF6 S O. SF1 SF2 SF3 SF4 SF5 SF6 S SITY 1 2 3 6 10 17 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 27	O. SF1 SF2 SF3 SF4 SF5 SF6 SF7 SF8 SITY 1 2 4 8 16 32 48 32 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 17 54 16 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 17 54 16 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 17 54 SF5 SF6 SF7 SF8 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 27 33 27 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 27 33 27 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 27 33 27 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 27 33 27	O. SF1 SF2 SF3 SF4 SF5 SF6 SF7 SF8 SF9 SITY 1 2 4 8 16 SF1 SF6 SF7 SF8 SF9 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 17 SF1 SF6 SF7 SF8 SF9 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 27 33 27 10 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 27 33 27 10 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 27 33 27 10	0. SF1 SF2 SF3 SF4 SF5 SF6 SF7 SF8 SF9 SF10 B0 B1 B3-1 B4-1 B5-1 B6-1 B6 B7-2 B5-2 B4-2 SITY 1 2 4 8 16 35 SF6 SF7 SF8 SF9 SF10 B0 B1 B3-1 B4-1 B5-1 B6-1 B7 SF8 SF9 SF10 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 17 54 16 10 6 B0 B1 B3-1 B4-1 B5-1 B6-1 B7 SF8 SF9 SF10 B0 B1 B3-1 B4-1 B5-1 B6-1 B7 SF8 SF9 SF10 B0 B1 B3-1 B4-1 B5-1 B6-1 B7 SF8 SF9 SF10 B0 B1 B3-1 B4-1 B5-1 B6-1 B6 B7-2 B5-2 B4-2 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 27 33 27 10 6	O. SF1 SF2 SF3 SF4 SF5 SF6 SF7 SF8 SF9 SF10 SF11 SITY 1 2 4 8 16 32 SF7 SF8 SF9 SF10 SF11 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 17 SF1 SF7 SF8 SF9 SF10 SF11 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 17 SF1 SF9 SF9 SF10 SF11 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 17 SF1 SF9 SF9 SF10 SF11 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 17 SF1 SF8 SF9 SF10 SF11 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 17 SF1 SF9 SF9 SF10 SF11 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 27 33 27 10 6 4 8 1817 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 27 33 27 10 6 4 4 1817 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 27 33 27 10 6 4 4 1817 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 27 33 27 10 6 4 4 1817 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 27 33 27 10 6 4 4 1817 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 27 33 27 10 6 4 4 1817 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 27 33 27 10 6 4 4 1817 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 27 33 27 10 6 4 4 1817 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 27 33 27 10 6 6 4 4 1817 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 27 33 27 10 6 6 4 4 1817 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 27 33 27 10 6 6 4 4 1817 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 27 33 27 10 6 6 4 4 1817 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 27 33 27 10 6 6 4 4 1817 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 27 33 27 10 6 6 4 4 1817 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 27 33 27 10 6 6 4 4 1817 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 27 33 27 10 6 6 4 4 1817 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 27 33 27 10 6 6 4 4 1817 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 27 33 27 10 6 6 4 4 1817 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 6 10 6 6 4 4 1817 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 6 10 6 6 4 4 1817 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 6 10 6 6 4 4 1817 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 6 10 6 6 4 4 1817 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 6 10 6 6 4 4 1817 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 6 10 6 6 4 4 1817 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 6 10 6 6 4 4 1817 SITY 1 2 3 6 10 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6

EP 0 833 299 A1

	SUB-FIELD NO.	SF1	SF2	SF3	SF4	SF5	SF6	SF7	SF8	SF9	SF10 SF11		SF12
IG.12(a)	BIT NO.	8	<u>~</u>	B2	B3-1	B4-1	B5-1	B6-1	B7	B6-2	B5-2	B4-2	B3-2
•	LIGHT INTENSITY (WEIGHT)	+-	2	4	4	8	16	24	64	24	16	8	4
									·		·		
	SUB-FIELD NO.	SF1	SF2	SF3	SF4	SF5	SF6	SF7	SF8	SF9	SF10	SF11	SF12
IG.12(b)	BIT NO.	BO	<u>6</u>	B2	B3-1	B4-1	B5-1	B7-1	Be	B7-2	B5-2	B4-2	B3-2
•	LIGHT INTENSITY (WEIGHT)	1	2	4	4	80	16	32	48	32	16	8	4
						:							
	SUB-FIELD NO.	SF1	SF2	SF3	SF4	SF5	SF6	SF7	SF8	SF9	SF10	SF11	SF12
:IG.12(c)	BIT NO.	80 B0	₩.	B2	B3-1	B4-1	B5-1	B6-1	87	B6-2	B5-2	B4-2	B3-2
•	LIGHT INTENSITY (WEIGHT)	-	2	4	3	9	10	17	54	16	10	9	4
					-								
	SUB-FIELD NO.	SF1	SF2	SF3	SF4	SF5	SF6	SF7	SF8	SF9	SF10	SF11	SF12
IG.12(d)	BIT NO.	B0	B1	B2	B3-1	B4-1	B5-1	B7-1	Be	B7-2	B5-2	B4-2	B3-2
	LIGHT INTENSITY (WEIGHT)	1	2	4	ဗ	9	10	27	33	27	유	9	4

FIG.13

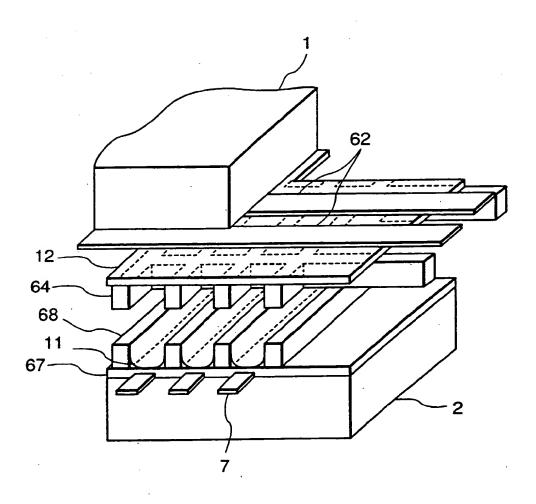
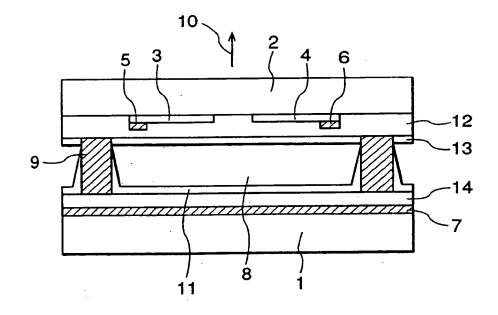
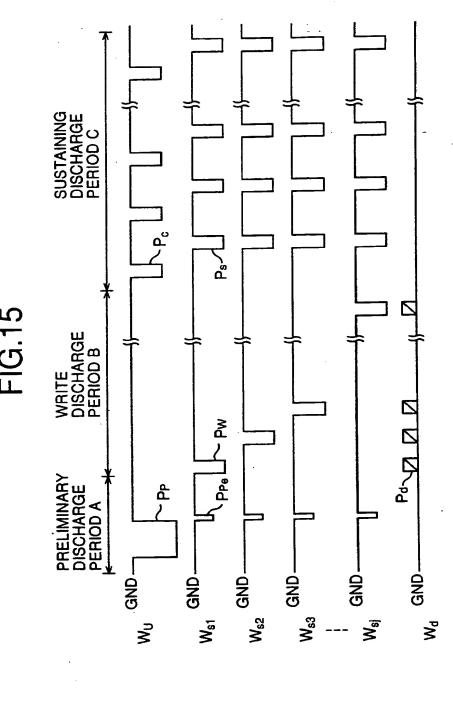


FIG.14





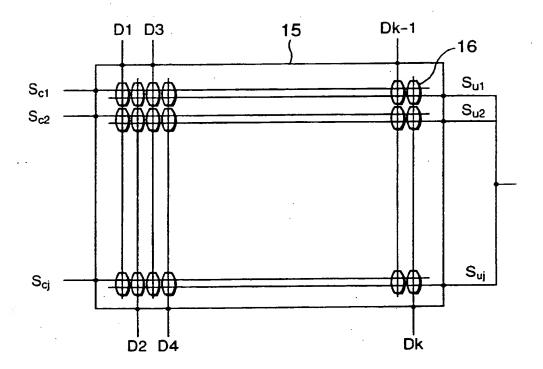
PPe : PRELIMINARY DISCHARGE ERASE PULSE PP: PRELIMINARY DISCHARGE PULSE

W_U: DRIVE PULSE APPLIED COMMONLY TO SUSTAINING

ELECTRODES Sui, Su, ..., Suj Ws1, Ws2, ..., Wsj : DRIVE PULES APPLIED TO SCAN

ELECTRODES S_{C1}, S_{C2}, ····, S_{Cj} W_d: DRIVE PULSE APPLIED TO DATA ELECTRODE D_i

P_c: SUSTAINING PULSE P_s: SUSTAINING PULSE P_d: DATA PULSE Pw: SCAN PULSE



 $S_{c1}, S_{c2} \cdots, S_{cj}$: SCAN ELECTRODES $S_{u1}, S_{u2}, \cdots, S_{uj}$: SUSTAINING ELECTRODES D1, D2 \cdots , Dk: DATA ELECTRODES

15: PDP PANEL 16: DISPLAY CELL

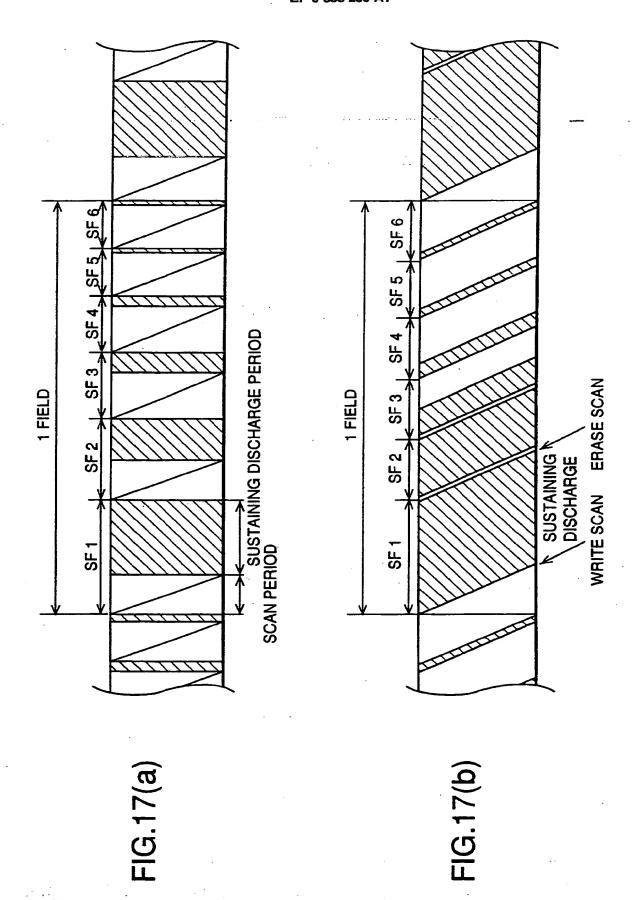


FIG.18

SUB-FIELD NO.	SF1	SF2	SF3	SF4	SF5	SF6	SF7	
BIT NO.	BO	B1	B2	В3	B4	B5	B6	B7
LIGHT INTENSITY	1	2	4	8	16	32	64	128
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
~								,
63	1	1	1	. 1	1	1	0	0
64	0	. 0	0	0	0	0	1	0
~	1							
127	1	. 1	1	1	1	1	1	0
128	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
~							-	
191	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1
192	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
~								
255	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

EP 0 833 299 A1



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 97 11 6665

		ERED TO BE RELEVANT	Dolo:	CI ACCIEICATION OF THE	
Category	Citation of document with i of relevant pass	ndication, where appropriate. sages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)	
X	EP 0 698 874 A (TEX	AS INSTRUMENTS INC.)	9	G09G3/28	
Y	* abstract *		10		
Α	* column 2, line 6	- line 17 *	3,4,8		
	* column 3, line 5:	5 - column 4, line 1 * column 5, line 9 *			
		- line 25; figures 2-6			
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•	* abstract *	. (.		
	* page 3, line 39 -	page 4, line 30 *			
Α	DATABASE WPI	-	10		
	Section PO, Week 96	35			
	Derwent Publication Class P85, AN 96-34	s Ltd., London, GB;			
	XP002048673				
		MATSUSHITA DENKI SANGYO			
	KK) , 21 June 1996 * abstract *			TECHNICAL FIELDS	
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	The present search report has	been drawn up for all claims			
	Place of search	Date of completion of the search		Examiner	
	THE HAGUE	1 December 1997		eilly, D	
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